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# University of Montana

## NEWS RELEASE

Office of News and Publications  
Missoula, MT 59812  
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April 8, 1991

### UM SLATES LAW WEEKEND '91, LECTURE ON ETHICS

MISSOULA --

Montana Supreme Court hearings, a testimonial dinner and the Barristers' Ball are among the highlights of Law Weekend '91, set for Thursday through Saturday, April 18-20, at The University of Montana.

Following the weekend's activities, the UM School of Law will host a Tuesday, April 23, lecture by Michael Josephson, president of the California-based Josephson Institute of Ethics. His speech, the 13th annual Blankenbaker Lecture on Professional Responsibility, will begin at 10:30 a.m. in the law school library.

UM's Law Weekend doubles as an informational event, open to the public, and a reunion for law school alumni. This year's festivities will feature a testimonial dinner for James R. Browning, former chief judge of the 9th Circuit, U.S. Court of Appeals. The event, at 7 p.m. Saturday at the Village Red Lion, will honor Browning for his outstanding contributions to justice, exemplified by his innovative reshaping of the structures and procedures of the nation's largest and busiest circuit.

Browning, a 1941 graduate of UM's law school, is currently an associate justice and chief judge emeritus for the 9th Circuit, which covers the western United States. Earlier this year, he received the national Devitt Distinguished Service to Justice Award. He will serve as a scholar-in-residence at UM throughout Law Weekend '91.

Weekend festivities begin at 3:30 p.m. Thursday with the Res Judicata

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3-kilometer footrace in Greenough Park, followed at 6:30 p.m. by the Smoker, the law school's annual faculty roast. Featuring skits, music and food, the Smoker will be held at the Union Club, 208 E. Main.

On Friday, area residents will have the opportunity to observe the Montana Supreme Court in formal session while the justices hear two cases in the Montana Theatre of UM's Performing Arts and Radio-TV building.

The first case, Scheffelman vs. the state of Montana, raises issues regarding the admissability of certain testimony in the trial of a defendant charged with sexual abuse of a child. The case will begin at 10 a.m. with an introduction by law school Dean Martin Burke. At 2 p.m., law school Professor Greg Munro will introduce Pence vs. Fox, which addresses the question of whether Montana children may ask a jury to award them personal damages for the loss of the comfort, society and companionship of a catastrophically injured parent.

Friday night is reserved for class reunions and the Barristers' Ball, which begins at 9 p.m. in the Holiday Inn Missoula-Parkside. The ball will be preceded by a 7 p.m. alumni dinner honoring UM's past moot court teams and the classes of 1941, 1956, 1966, and 1981.

Continuing legal education courses on a variety of topics will be held Friday and Saturday. For more information, call 243-4311.

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